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Dated: October 23, 2003

Signature: 

(Robert B. Cohen)

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-204  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Yoshiyasu Kubota

Application No.: 09/938,121

Group Art Unit: 2185

Filed: August 23, 2001

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: ELECTRONIC APPARATUS AND  
EXTERNAL APPARATUS USING THE SAME

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OCT 29 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Technology Center 2100

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**


Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the references listed on the enclosed form be made of record and considered with respect to the above-referenced U.S. patent application. The cited references were listed on a search report issued in connection with applicant's corresponding European application. The European Search Report and a copy of each reference are enclosed. Submission of the present Information Disclosure Statement should not be taken as an admission that the cited references are legally available prior art or that the same are pertinent or material.

In the event that any fee is due in connection with the present Information Disclosure Statement, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

Dated: October 23, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

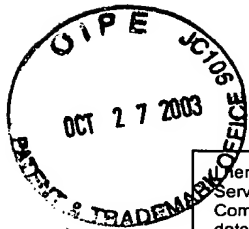
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**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(E)(1)**

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (1), undersigned counsel hereby certifies that each item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application to the above-referenced patent application not more than three months prior to the filing of said statement.

Dated: October 23, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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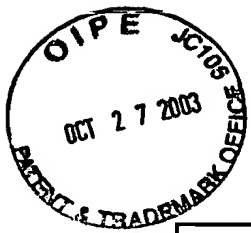
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<b>Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	09/938,121
				Filing Date	August 23, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Yoshiyasu Kubota
				Art Unit	2185
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	SONYJP 3.0-204

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	AA	US-5,996,083	11-30-1999	Gupta et al.	
	AB	US-6,085,982	07-11-2000	Tatsuya Nakashima	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	BA	EP-0 679 983-A2	11-02-1995	International Business Machines Corporation		✓
	BB	JP-03-268013-A1	11-28-1991	Fujitsu Ltd		**

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		T <sup>2</sup>

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